Violent Video Of Boat Dragging Shark Sparks Outrage, Investigation

Florida conservation officials are working to identify the individuals in the video.

By Caleb Remson

Conservation officials in Florida are investigating a shocking video that shows a speeding boat dragging a shark as a group of people laugh and cheer.

Mark Sumpнее, director of shark research at Mote, inventoried the video Monday on Instagram with over 7,000 views.

It shows a boat traveling at high speed while dragging a shark by its pectoral fins, which can be very painful for the shark and it shows no sign of life in the boat's video.

Quarantine 48 states and boat ops, one of the men on the boat sent the video to his Instagram page for posterity. The video was also used Questions pictures of the shark's injuries, according to local news station WESH 2.

Quarantine forwarded the video to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission after reviewing it.

"It's disgusting," he said. "It's a waste of an animal. It's a waste of a life." Quarantine told CBS 4 News, "It's absolutely the worst thing I've ever seen in Florida." It is unclear if the shark was still alive in the video.

Warning: The footage below is graphic.

Christopher Lowe, director of the shark research at the Marine Mammal Laboratory, told HUFFPost that the shark may have been a basking shark, which is illegal to harvest in the state of Florida.

The FWC confirmed to local news outlets Sunday that the agency was investigating the video and was attempting to identify the location of the incident and the individuals on the boat.

"The FWC has been alerted to a video circulating on social media alleging the out-of-state incident involving death and a vehicle," the commissioners public information officer told theテンプラSer. "The FWC has been informed that local authorities are investigating the incident."

Quarantine told WESH 2 that is a large, specifically-affected area before Florida state law brings them into the local area. He also said there is no reason for the behavior seen in the video.

"This is not just one of the worst things I have ever seen in 30 years professional sport fishing," Quarantine told the news station. "I don't believe this is criminal, but it would seem to me that this is an animal and they should be prosecuted."

It is too early for the FWC to determine whether any arrests were made in the video, Kessler told HUFFPost.

Quarantine's Instagram video has been viewed more than 46,000 times, and more than 11,000 comments have been left, many denouncing the behavior in the video.

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